Cauvery water dispute

365. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there has been any headway in the solution of the Cauvery Water dispute which has been referred to a Tribunal; and

(b) if so, by when the decision relating to the Cauvery Water dispute is likely to be announced by the Tribunal?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) The Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal has already held six sittings where all the Party States have presented their case.

(b) The Inter-State Water Disputes Act, 1956 does not prescribe any time limit for the Tribunal to give its award.

Criticism of refuelling of USAF Planes by Political parties

366. SHRI V NARAYANASAMY:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:
SHRI SOM PAL:
MAULANA OBAIDULLAH KHAN AZMI:

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the sharp criticism from various political parties for refuelling of US Military Planes at various Indian Airports;

(b) when the decision to allow the refuelling of the US Military planes in our country was taken; and

(c) whether Government propose to review the decision as a Member of the Non-Aligned Movement in view of the Gulf War?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER'S OFFICE (SHRI KAMAL MORARKA): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In the present context the permission for transit and refuelling was given on 28th December, 1990.

(c) With effect from 20th February, 1991, no refuelling has been taking place.

Narmada Project

367. SHRI V. NARAYANASAMY: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the existing dispute relating to Narmada Project has been settled and if so, what is the stage of the work as on date; and

(b) what is the cost over heads due to the delay in completing the Narmada Project?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) The Narmada Water Disputes Tribunal set up by the Government has already given the award and the projects are being implemented accordingly. 12 per cent progress has been achieved in Sardar Sarovar Project. In the case of Narmada Sagar Project, preconstruction works, like, diversion arrangements and construction of colonies, are in progress.

(b) Narmada Sagar Dam and Sardar Sarovar Dam will be completed by the year 2000 and 1998 at the estimated project costs of Rs. 1993.67 crores and Rs. 6406.06 crores respectively.

Honouring of Passes by private buses under DTC

368. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:
SHRI SYED SIBTEY RAZI:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether private buses under D.T.C. are allowing the all-route D.T.C. passes in their buses;

(b) whether these bus-owners were also allowing holiday tickets of Rs. 4/-;

(c) whether recently these owners have refused to honour holiday tickets of Rs. 4;

(d) whether D.T.C. has issued any instructions in this regard;

(e) if so, the reasons for issuing such instructions;

(f) whether Government propose to take action against owners of private buses under DTC for refusing to honour such tickets; and

(g) if so, the details thereof and if not, reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) to (e) The private bus owners had represented for a share of the income earned by the DTC on the sale of holiday tickets of Rs. 4. As DTC were not prepared to share these earnings as these were remunerative and in view of the difficulties in determining the share, it was decided that "travel as your please" tickets of Rs. 4 which were earlier valid in private buses under DTC on Saturdays, Sundays and Gazetted Holidays would not be allowed in the private buses operating under DTC w.e.f. 19-1-91. Instructions in this regard were issued by the DTC on 16-1-1991.

(f) and (g) Does not arise in view of answer to (c) to e) above.

Curtailment of DTC bus services

369. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:
SHRI HARVENDRA SINGH HANSPAL:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have directed the DTC to curtail its bus services to save fuel, if so, the reasons therefor;

(b) the number of DTC buses brought out from DTC fleet;

(c) whether the citizens of Delhi are facing difficulty due to curtailment of DTC bus services; and

(d) if so, the details of the further steps Government propose to take to effectively augment the DTC fleet and to replace the old and overaged buses?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI MANUBHAI KOTADIA): (a) & (b) No, Sir. The average number of DTC buses put on road during Dec., 1990 and Jan., 1991 was 3826 and 3856 respectively.

(c) Does not arise in view of the reply to (a) & (b) of the Question.

(d) On account of financial constraints, DTC is in a position only to replace the overaged buses. During 90-91, DTC has been given sanction for the purchase of 506 buses on replacement account. Of these, 209 buses have already been procured and for balance 297 buses, action to procure is underway and the same are likely to be added to the fleet by end June, 1991. In additional, Government propose to accord sanction for acqusition of another 394 buses on replacement account this year.

Mishap of an Indian ship off Malta

370. SHRI RAJNI RANJAN SAHU:
SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA:
SHRI DHULESHWAR MEENA:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether an Indian Ship, 'Continental Lotus', sank off Malta on 21st January, 1991;

(b) if so, the causes of the accident;

(c) the loss of life as a result thereof; and

(d) the relief given to the families of the deceased?